

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:306

ANSWERED ON:30.07.2014

ILLEGAL CONSTRUCTIONS

Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar;Charitra Shri Ram

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of illegal construction of buildings and resultant casualties, in the recent past and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has drawn up a 25-point agenda to tackle the problem of illegal constructions and demolition of buildings and to fix accountabilities among officers involved in urban development and housing;
- (c) if so, the details of the said agenda along with the response of the States thereto;
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to support/assist States in adopting modern technology including satellite imagery to check illegal constructions in urban areas and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether any mechanism has been put in place for coordinating the efforts of the urban local bodies, States and the Government to curb illegal constructions to avoid tragedies due to building collapses and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 306 FOR 30.07.2014 REGARDING ILLEGAL CONSTRUCTIONS

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. But, 'Land' and 'Colonisation' being State subjects as per Constitution of India, it is the primary responsibility of the State Governments to take action for illegal constructions. However, illegal construction is a matter of serious concern and the Housing and Urban Development Ministers of the States were strongly exhorted to check illegal constructions and fix accountability of the officers/officials concerned, during the course of the Conclave of Housing and Urban Development Ministers held at New Delhi on 3rd July, 2014. The Government has proposed a 25-point Reform Agenda of which the aforesaid issue of illegal construction and accountability is one.

(c): The Government of India and State Governments aim to implement the 25-point Reform Agenda, as enclosed as annexure – A.

(d): The Ministry assists State Governments in using the Geo-Spatial Technologies, especially to interpret satellite images, which can be helpful in monitoring the illegal constructions. The use of Bhuvan, to explore and discover virtual earth in 2D / 3D space on Indian region, by National Urban Information System (NUIS-BHUVAN) has also been introduced through State level training programmes.

(e): Local Government being a State subject, the monitoring and curbing of illegal construction comes within the purview of the State Governments, including their Municipal Authorities and Urban Development Authorities.